

Application No. 09/675,931
Amendment dated October 14, 2004
Reply to Office Action of April 14, 2004

Amendments to the Claims

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listing, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1-16. (Cancelled)

17. (New) An exhaust gas purification system comprising at least one catalyst body which is arranged in a housing and which has a honeycomb metal matrix as a substrate for active catalyst material and a jacket of metal, surrounding the matrix and attached thereto via which the catalyst body is fixedly connected to the housing only at one point at its downstream end region, the catalyst body being arranged inside an inner pipe fixedly connected to the housing and the catalyst body, in turn, being fixedly connected to the inner pipe, the catalyst body being spaced from the inner pipe to form a gas space, the gas space being closed at its downstream end, and its upstream end being in communication with the exhaust gas flow.

18. (New) An exhaust gas purification system in accordance with claim 17, characterized in that the inner pipe is spaced from the housing to form an insulation gap.

19. (New) An exhaust gas purification system in accordance with claim 17, characterized in that the inner pipe is an extension of an inlet pipe piece or an outlet pipe piece provided in the housing.

20. (New) An exhaust gas purification system in accordance with claim 17, characterized in that the inner pipe protrudes over the catalyst body at least at one side.

21. (New) An exhaust gas purification system in accordance with claim 17, characterized in that the jacket is connected to the housing or the inner pipe via an intermediate pipe piece.

22. (New) An exhaust gas purification system in accordance with claim 21, characterized in that the intermediate pipe piece engages with its one end into the inner pipe and is connected to the jacket and protrudes with its other end over the associated end of the inner pipe and is connected to the inner pipe.

23. (New) An exhaust gas purification system in accordance with claim 17, characterized in that the jacket of the catalyst body protrudes beyond the matrix at least at one side and the fixed connection is at the protruding section.

24. (New) An exhaust gas purification system in accordance with claim 17, characterized in that two catalyst bodies including jackets thereof are arranged behind one another in the direction of exhaust gas flow and in that at least the front catalyst body is only fixedly connected to the housing at one point.

25. (New) An exhaust gas purification system in accordance with claim 24, characterized in that the jacket of the front catalyst body is extended up to the rear catalyst body and is connected to the jacket of the rear catalyst body.

26. (New) An exhaust gas purification system in accordance with claim 25, characterized in that the jacket of the front catalyst body engages into a protruding section of the jacket of the rear catalyst body.

27. (New) An exhaust gas purification system in accordance with claim 17, characterized in that the jacket, the matrix and the welded joints are of the same material.